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A SEASIDE COTTAGE.

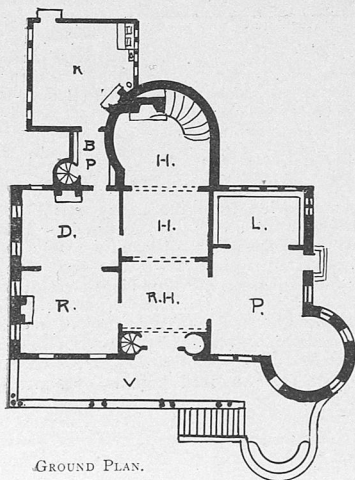


WE HAVE received from Mr. Oscar Bunce, the architect, for this number, a sketch of a seaside cottage. The house is practical in its way, and planned so as to make a habitable home. It comprises seven rooms on the first floor, with five rooms and bath upstairs. It is of no particular style—of no special architecture—but built solely and chiefly for convenience as a summer seaside cottage.

The foundation and first story are of stone, while the gables and roof are shingled.

The tower is built partly of stone and partly of wood, terminating in a light-house effect, which is rather novel in its way.

The porch is ten feet wide, while the roof is supported with ornamental posts, as shown in the sketch. One enters through a large and handsome paneled hall, divided by arches, which serves as a reception-room. From there into the hall proper, which leads to the staircase. This is covered by a half dome skylight in which are amber panes of glass. The kitchen is well situated at the back of the house, and is so isolated as to prevent any of the disagreeables that generally prevail in this region known as the culinary department. It is connected with the dining-room by an ample butler's pantry. This house can be built at a moderate sum, but, like all investments, the finish determines the price.



GROUND PLAN.

A PIONEER HOME.

BY LAURA B. STARR.



WHEN the woman of artistic temperament and refined tastes finds herself in a new country, bereft of old conditions and belongings, the home-making becomes a problem that is only solved by slow degrees and after many experiments. She believes useful things have a beauty of their own, which fact should not be disregarded in the selection of even the commonest household utensil; and that there is one beauty of form, another of color and another of decoration; also that one, and many times all of these, may be considered in buying any article. Another of her creeds is, that all fitting up and furnishing should, as much as possible, partake of local coloring, and that domestic materials should be used whenever they can be with good effect. One of the prettiest, simplest and most artistic homes it has been my good fortune to see, is on one of the small islands in Puget Sound, and is presided over by a New York woman, who gave me a very graphic description of her first efforts at home-making in the State of Washington. She says—"The building was little more than a 'shack,' rough, unpainted and uninviting, and undivided. I had partitions put up, dividing it into four rooms, two large and two small ones. I settled the kitchen first and made it as complete and comfortable as the resources of the place would permit, for I believe that the health, comfort and happiness of a family depend largely upon the kitchen; but that is too deep a subject to go into now."



A SEASHORE COTTAGE. DESIGNED BY J. O. BUNCE, ARCHITECT, NEW YORK.

"In the centre of the living-room I had an open fireplace built of boulders laid in mortar; the stones were gathered from the adjoining fields, and they and I were subjects of derision all the while the fireplace was building; when it was completed and a roaring fire of spruce and hemlock bark burning on the hearth, derision was turned to admiration."

"Over the mantel I hung an Indian bark mat upon which I had painted in large bold letters, in black, the following couplet:—

'Blow high, blow low, no winds that blow
Can quench our hearth-fire's ruddy glow.'

"The rooms were ceiled with Douglas fir, the grain of which is beautiful; this was not stained, but left in its natural color, with only a coat of shellac to bring it out better. In the living room there was a wainscoting of 'slabs,' four and a half feet high."

"These 'slabs' are the shaved-off sides of logs—the first cut—with the bark left on, which gives a wonder-